

P1
cross section in a plane extending perpendicular to the longitudinal central axis of said sheath when said sheath is in the contracted condition; and an array of filaments which is enclosed by said sheath and extends axially substantially from one end portion to the other end portion of said sheath.

D2
64. (Twice Amended) An expandable cannula which is movable into a patient's body tissue, said cannula comprising a tubular sheath having a passage which extends between axially opposite end portions of said sheath, said sheath being resiliently expandable from a contracted condition in which the passage through said sheath has a relatively small cross sectional size in a plane perpendicular to a longitudinal central axis of said sheath to an expanded condition in which the passage through said sheath has a relatively large cross sectional size in a plane perpendicular to the longitudinal central axis of said sheath, said sheath having an oval cross section in a plane extending perpendicular to the longitudinal central axis of said sheath when said sheath is in the contracted condition; and a variable volume chamber connected with said sheath and movable into the patient's body tissue with at least a portion of said sheath, said variable volume chamber being expandable under the influence of fluid pressure to an extended condition in which said variable volume chamber projects outward from a side surface of said sheath to retard withdrawal of said sheath from the patient's body tissue.

59
19 257
D3
66. (Amended) An expandable cannula which is movable into a patient's body tissue, said cannula comprising a tubular sheath which at least partially encloses an array of filaments which extends between axially opposite end portions of said sheath substantially from one end portion to the other end portion of said sheath, said sheath and said array of filaments being resiliently expandable from a contracted condition in which said sheath and said array of filaments have a relatively small cross sectional size in a plane perpendicular to a longitudinal central axis of said sheath to an expanded condition in which said sheath and said array of filaments have a relatively large cross sectional size in a plane perpendicular to the longitudinal central axis of said sheath.

D4
72. (Twice Amended) An expandable cannula which is movable into a patient's body

D4 tissue, said cannula comprising a tubular sheath which at least partially encloses an array of filaments which extends between axially opposite end portions of said sheath, said sheath and said array of filaments being resiliently expandable from a contracted condition in which said sheath and said array of filaments have a relatively small cross sectional size in a plane perpendicular to a longitudinal central axis of said sheath to an expanded condition in which said sheath and said array of filaments have a relatively large cross sectional size in a plane perpendicular to the longitudinal central axis of said sheath; and a variable volume chamber connected with said sheath and insertable into the patient's body tissue with at least a portion of said sheath, said variable volume chamber being expandable under the influence of fluid pressure to an extended condition in which said variable volume chamber projects outward from a side surface of said sheath to retard withdrawal of said sheath from the patient's body tissue.

73. (Twice Amended) An expandable cannula which is movable into a patient's body tissue, said cannula comprising a tubular sheath which at least partially encloses an array of filaments which extends between axially opposite end portions of said sheath, said sheath and said array of filaments being resiliently expandable from a contracted condition in which said sheath and said array of filaments have a relatively small cross sectional size in a plane perpendicular to a longitudinal central axis of said sheath to an expanded condition in which said sheath and said array of filaments have a relatively large cross sectional size in a plane perpendicular to the longitudinal central axis of said sheath, wherein said sheath has a pointed end portion for piercing body tissue when said sheath and array of filaments are in the contracted condition.

D5 77. (Twice Amended) An expandable cannula which is movable into a patient's body tissue, said cannula comprising a tubular sheath which at least partially encloses an array of filaments which extends between axially opposite end portions of said sheath, said sheath having a passage which extends between axially opposite end portions of said sheath, said sheath and said array of filaments being resiliently expandable from a contracted condition in which said sheath, array of filaments, and passage have relatively small oval cross sectional sizes in a plane perpendicular to a longitudinal central axis of